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Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SPC-03 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01

(ISO) W
---------- 040837
R 060103Z NOV 73
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 796
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
SECDEF UNN
CSAF UNN
COMMAC SCOTT UNN
UNCINCEUR UNN
NMCC UNN
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4471

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, OCLR, XF, UN, PFOR
SUBJ: UNEF COMPOSITION AND NIGHT REACH INFORMATION

REF: STATE 217958

1. FOLLOWING MISCELLANEOUS INFO ON UNEF AND NIGHT REACH, OBTAINED FROM CHIEF OF FIELD SERVICE OPERATIONS LANSKY AND UN SPOKESMAN'S BRIEFING, MAY HELP FILL SOME GAPS.

2. UN SPOKESMAN NOV 5 GAVE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN OF CURRENT UNEF COMPOSITION AND STRENGTH:

"AS OF NOV 4 THE UNEF STRENGTH OF FORCES ON THE SCENE INCLUDING 194 AUSTRIAN OFFICERS AND MEN IN CAIRO AND
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11 IN ISMALIA AND SUEZ; 64 FINNS IN CAIRO AND 230 IN SUEZ;

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98 IRISH IN CAIRO AND 31 IN ISMALIA; 79 SWEDES IN CAIRO
AND 381 IN ISMALIA. 70 ADDITIONAL SWEDES ARE DUE MONDAY
IN CAIRO BRINGING THE TOTAL UNEF FORCE TO 1158 MEN.

"POLAND AND CANADA LOGISTICAL FORCES WILL BE CONSIDERED
PART OF THE TOTAL 7000 MAN FORCE PRESCRIBED BY THE SECURITY
COUNCIL. NO FIGURES ARE SET YET FOR THE CONTRIBUTION
OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES--GHANA, NEPAL, INDONESIA, PANAMA,
PERU, AND THE TWO AFRICAN COUNTRIES YET TO BE NAMED.

"ON NOVEMBER 5, 11 CANADIANS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN
CAIRO AS PART OF THE ADVANCE LOGISTICAL FORCE. THEY ARE
BRINGING JEEPS AND SOME OTHER EQUIPMENT. 131 IRISH WILL
BE ARRIVING FROM IRELAND. A FINNISH CONTINGENT--295
PEOPLE AND 400 TONS OF EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING 75 VEHICLES--
IS BEING AIRLIFTED FROM FINLAND BY SOV MILITARY AIR
TRANSPORT BETWEEN NOVEMBER 5-8. TEN AIRCRAFT ARE
SCHEDULED TO DEPART FROM HELSINKI TODAY.

"ON NOVEMBER 4, 12 UNEF TRUCKS HAD DELIVERED SUPPLIES TO
THE EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF
TRUCK DELIVERIES TO 102.

"NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE BY UNEF ON HOW THE
LOGISTICAL FUNCTION WILL BE DIVIDED BETWEEN CANADA
AND POLAND.

"GENERAL ENSIO SIILASVUO OF FINLAND IS EXPECTED TO
CONTINUE AS INTERIM COMMANDER OF UNEF FOR THE MOMENT.
HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY HOLDING TWO JOBS--
HE IS ALSO UNTSO COMMANDER--THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL
PROBABLY MAKE A DECISION ON A PERMANENT COMMANDER SOON."

3. SUPPLEMENTING ABOVE, LANSKY TOLD US UN EXPECTED
POLES AND CANADIANS TO BE READY TO START LOGISTIC SUPPORT
BY NOVEMBER 8 OR 9. (POLISH TEAM ARRIVING NEW YORK TONIGHT
TO CONSULT WITH UN ON REQUIREMENTS.) UNTIL UNEF CONTINGENTS
NOW IN PLACE ARE PROPERLY SUPPLIED AND ADEQUATE
COMMUNICATIONS SET UP, UN DOES NOT PLAN BRING IN FURTHER
LINE TROOPS--OTHER THAN TWO SOV AIRLIFTS NOW IN TRAIN OF
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AUSTRIANS (TO ARRIVE CAIRO NOV 9) AND REMAINING
FINNS (SCHEDULED ARRIVE WITHIN NEXT 24 HOURS).

4. TO OUR QUESTION OF WHEN US COULD NEXT EXPECT TO BE
CALLED ON FOR AIRLIFT SERVICES, LANSKY REPLIED THAT
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE TWO WEEKS BEFORE NEXT LIFT WAS REQUESTED.
PANAMA AND PERU WOULD PROBABLY BE NEXT COUNTRIES TO HAVE
TROOPS LIFTED BY US. (GIVEN THIS TIMETABLE, DEPT AND DOD

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MAY WISH RECONSIDER REQUEST TO CAIRO THAT ALCE TEAM STAY ON--STATE 217958.)

5. ON QUESTION OF US SUPPLY OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT, LANSKY SAID UN WAS WAITING TO SEE IF USSR OR FRANCE WOULD PROVIDE EQUIPMENT ON NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS, US AND UK HAVING DECLINED SUPPLY WITHOUT CHARGE (STATE 215051). IF UN COULD OBTAIN EQUIPMENT FREE, IT WOULD DO SO; IF NOT, IT WOULD APPROACH US WITH DETAILED LIST. (DOD OFFER TO HELP DETERMINE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS APPRECIATED BY UN, BUT FOR TIME BEING NOT DESIRED.) COMMENT: LANSKY ASKED IF REIMBURSEMENT REQUIRED BY US WAS FULL COST OF EQUIPMENT OR NOMINAL FEE. WE SAID WE ASSUMED FORMER, BUT WOULD INQUIRE. PLEASE INSTRUCT.

6. LANSKY EXPLAINED THAT UN ASKED USSR TO AIRLIFT MAIN BODY OF FINNISH TROOPS AT POINT WHEN US HAD INFORMED UN IT COULD NOT LIFT ANY TROOPS OR SUPPLIES, OTHER THAN FINNISH ADVANCE UNIT, UNLESS CLEARANCE FOR US MILITARY PLANES TO LAND IN CAIRO WAS ARRANGED. LATER, WHEN EGYPT GRANTED CLEARANCE, UN FELT IT COULD NOT WITHDRAW REQUEST TO SVS. INCIDENTALLY, FINNISH MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION TO USUN MILITARY STAFF OFFICER FOR SMOOTH AND EFFICIENT US LIFT OF FINNISH TROOPS.
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